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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF CONFECTIONERY PRODUCTS

(57) Abstract: A process for the continuous production of confectionery products comprising crystallised xylitol comprising: feeding xylitol in liquid form which is capable of crystallisation on cooling into a mixer together with xylitol seed crystals; mixing the xylitol in liquid form and the xylitol seed crystals to produce a seeded mass; and discharging the seeded mass from the mixer, wherein the mixer is maintained at a temperature of between 80 °C and 120 °C, whereby build up of crystallised xylitol within the mixer is substantially prevented. The xylitol in liquid form may be molten xylitol or a solution of xylitol and may comprise xylitol alone or in high proportion in combination with other polyols.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C07C29/78 C07C31/26 C13F1/02 A23L1/09 A23L1/236		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 A23G C07C C13F A23L		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search term used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
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<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members as listed in annex. </div>		
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<div style="display: flex;"> <div style="flex: 1;"> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> </div> <div style="flex: 1;"> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in connection with the application but cited to understand the principles or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.</p> <p>"Z" document member of the same patent family</p> </div> </div>		
Date of the actual completion of the international search <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">28 September 2004</div>		Date of mailing of the international search report <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">05/10/2004</div>
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016		Authorized officer <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Tallgren, A</div>

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